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| |  | | --- | | **Artist Respond Grant Program**  The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) received 258 submissions to the Artist Respond program and was able to award seventy-three (73) grants for a total budget of $88,000. We received a number of strong applications, however, the field’s response far exceeded available funding making the grant process highly competitive. We would like to thank all the artists who took the time to share their amazing ideas with us!  Join us in congratulating the following Artist Respond Grant Recipients:  Kaitrin Acuna, Meriden  Faustin Adeniran, New Haven  Debra Aldo, Sterling  Laura Angiolillo, Glastonbury  Noah Baerman, Middletown  Cheryl Bartley, Winsted  Stephen Bisaccia, Derby  Kevin Bishop, Norwich  Christine Breslin, West Hartford  Darcy Bruce, Quaker Hill  Alicia Cobb, Bridgeport  Felicia Cooper, Stafford Springs  Theodore Coulombe, Sharon  Brandon Couloute, Bristol  Jeanne Criscola, North Haven  Marek Czarnecki, Meriden  Carol Dannhauser, Fairfield  Leslie Elias, West Cornwall  Melanie Faranello, West Hartford  Amy Forbes, Chester  Lindsey Fyfe, Hartford  Derek Graham, Orange  Ashley Hamel, New Haven  Lara Herscovitch, Durham  Karen Hogg, East Haven  Barbara Hopkins, Vernon  Susan Jackson, Redding  Leslie Johnson, Coventry  Hyun "Hannah" Jung, Warren  Sarah Kaufold, Mansfield Center  Shannon Kiley, New Haven  Heidi Kirchofer, Harwinton  Jeffrey Krieger, East Hartford  ShawnaLee Kwashnak, Middlebury  Nicki LaPorte, Bristol  Thomas Lee, Bloomfield  Martha Lewis, New Haven  Hunter Liguore, Bristol  Tondrea Mabins, Stratford  Iyaba Mandingo, Bridgeport  Nadia Martinez, Greenwich  Susan "Sooo-z" Mastropietro, Westport  Susan McCaslin, New Haven  Luciana Quagliato McClure, Hamden  Elizabeth McNally, New Britain  Kathrine McNickle, Groton  Joel Melendez, Harwinton  Dawn Metcalf, Suffield  Christine Mitchell, Goshen  Lara Morton, Madison  Frank Natter, Jr., Deep River  Jill Nichols, Shelton  Kathryn Nolan, Milford  Emma Palzere-Rae, Groton  Bill Pere, Mystic  Adelka Polak, Bethel  Weverson Ponte, Norwalk  Ben Quesnel, Stamfordl  Charlie Rich, New Haven  Valerie Rogotzke, New Haven  Daniel Salazar, Jr., Hartford  Vincent Scarano, New London  Harold Shapiro, Guilford  Nellie Shevelkina, New Haven  Mary Ruth Shields, Portland  Elizabeth Simmons, Hartford  Rene Soto, Norwalk  Rashmi Talpade, Wallingford  Jesse Terry, Pawcatuck  Marcella Trowbridge, Middletown  Laura Walls, Glastonbury  Debra Walsh, West Hartford  Yves Wilson, Bridgeport  The Respond program was supported with a combination from the [National Endowment for the Arts](https://www.arts.gov/) [​](https://www.arts.gov/) (NEA) and state COA funding. | |

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| |  | | --- | | **Artist Relief Grant Program**  The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) received 461 submissions to the Artist Relief program and was able to award 140 grants for a total budget of $70,000. The awarded grants were determined through a random selection process. Recipients have been notified via email.  COA would like to acknowledge the support we received from the [New England Foundation for the Arts](https://www.nefa.org/) (NEFA) who contributed $47,000 to Connecticut for direct relief support for artists. We were able to allocate an additional $23,000 state dollars to further support Relief submission to expand our support of Connecticut artists cross the state. | |